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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1 Infantry Division, Tirana

1. The 1 Infantry Division [] is stationed in the Ali Rizaj barracks on Rruga Kavajes, Tirana. The total strength is 12,000 officers and men. The Division has the following staff officers: 25X1

a. An unknown Soviet colonel is the unofficial commander of the division. 25X1

b. Commanding Officer - Colonel Nexhip VINCANI, []

c. Political Commissar - Lieutenant Colonel Sotir Karapano []

d. Commander of the Rear Guard Detachment - Major Bedri Gjergji []

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e. Medical Officer - Captain Grigor Konomi [redacted]

f. Liaison Officer - Lieutenant Kostika Veshi [redacted]

2. The following is a list of offices located in the Ali Rizaj barracks of 1 Infantry Division:

- a. Office of the Soviet Colonel
- b. Office of the Commanding Officer
- c. Office of the Political Commissar
- d. Office of the Political Section
- e. Office of the Albanian Workers (Communist) Party
- f. Office of the Sigurimi
(The Sigurimi has 100 men attached to this office who serve as guards for Division Headquarters.)
- g. Office of the Rear Guard
- h. Office of the Secret Secretariat
- i. Office of the Chief of Staff
- j. Office of the Ordinance Officer
- k. Office of the Duty Officer
- l. Office of the Quartermaster
- m. Agit-Prop Office
- n. Medical Office
- o. Liaison Office

3. The following units are organic to the 1 Infantry Division:

a. An u/i Training Battalion [redacted]

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This battalion is located in the former Dakut School on Rruga Duresit, five kilometers northwest of Tirana. It has five companies; three infantry, one communications (radio-telegraph), and one engineers. Each company has three Soviet type 120 mm. mortars, three Soviet type Maxim 13 heavy calibre machine guns and six Soviet type DP light machine guns. Each company has 100 men and all personal equipment is of Soviet origin.

b. An u/i Infantry Battalion [redacted]

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This battalion is located 14 kilometers southeast of Tirana at Mullet near Petralla Castle. It consists of three infantry companies, one engineer company, and one (radio-telegraph) communications company. It has the same Soviet type weapons as described in sub-paragraph a. above.

c. An u/i Artillery Regiment [redacted]

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This regiment is located in the Ali Rizaj barracks in Tirana. It is divided into mechanized and regular cavalry and is equipped with 76 mm., 88 mm., 105 mm., and 152 mm. field and anti-aircraft cannon, and 120 mm heavy mortars. One organic battalion and artillery battery regularly assigned to this regiment are attached to the infantry battalion [redacted] (above). Another infantry battalion and artillery battery were located in the Kukes area on the Albanian-Yugoslav frontier from November 1951 to August 1952.

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- d. An u/i Infantry Battalion assigned to the 1 Infantry Division is stationed near Elbasan. Two other u/i Infantry Battalions [redacted] which are not assigned to the 1 Infantry Division are also stationed in Elbasan. An u/i Infantry Battalion [redacted] and other units are stationed in Vlone. 25X1 25X1

Infantry Brigade at Shkoder

4. The u/i Infantry Brigade [redacted] is stationed in the Skanderbeg barracks northeast of Shkoder. Its strength is equivalent to that of an infantry division. This brigade has the following staff officers: 25X1

- a. A Soviet Colonel - name and rank not known.
- b. Brigade Commander - Major Muharrem KOKOMANT [redacted]
- c. Political Commissar - Captain 1st Class Petro Zizi [redacted]
- d. Officer of the Rear Guard - Captain Aleko Karametri [redacted]
- e. Sigurimi Officer - Captain 1st Class Alaka Gusha [redacted]
- f. Assistant Sigurimi Officer - Lieutenant Kico Dranova [redacted]
- g. Political Commissar of the Liaison Office - Isa Dibra [redacted]

5. The following is a list of offices located in the Skanderbeg Barracks of the Infantry Brigade: 25X1

- a. Office of the Soviet Colonel
- b. Office of the Commanding Officer
- c. Office of the Political Commissar
- d. Office of the Sigurimi
- e. Office of the Rear Guard
- f. Office of the Duty Officer
- g. Office of the Chief of Staff
- h. Organizational Office (sic)
- i. Agit-Prop Office
- j. Liaison Office
- k. Office of the Quartermaster
- l. Medical Office

6. This Infantry Brigade consists of two artillery regiments, three infantry battalions, one engineer battalion and one communications battalion. One of the artillery regiments is stationed at Koplik, 18 kilometers north of Shkoder. During the summer months the three infantry battalions are stationed at Gruemire, 14 kilometers northeast of Shkoder.

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Military Schools

7. Shkolla Bashkuer Officeravet Enver, (The Enver Hoxha United Officers School), founded in 1945, is located on Rruga Dibres, east of Tirana. The school instructs officers without previous military training and cadets from the Shkolla Kadetvet Skanderbeg, (The Skanderbeg Cadet School). The following subjects are taught at the Enver Hoxha School; infantry tactics, engineering, liaison, training of political commissars, tank tactics, and finance.

8. The superintendent of the school is a Soviet Colonel. School Commandant is Major General Gjin MARKU.

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9. Political Commissar is Lieutenant Colonel Ropi Leka.

10. The Vice-Political Commissar is Captain Vasil Gjylamenti.

11. Shkolla Kadetvet Skanderbeg, (The Skanderbeg Cadet School) is located at Rruga Durrësit, four kilometers northwest of Tirana. The school has an enrollment of approximately 280 cadets.

12. The Political Commissar is Lieutenant Qerim Hysenej.

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Comment:

1. Probably the 60 Independent Infantry Brigade.

2. Probably the Voroshilov Military Academy.

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